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Prelim  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :  
NOBUCHIKA YAMAMOTO ET AL :  
SERIAL NO: NEW US PCT APPLN. : ATTN: APPLICATION BRANCH  
(Based on PCT/JP99/04978)  
FILED: HERewith :  
FOR: NEW USE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, before line 2, delete the title of the invention in its entirety, and insert therefor:

a<sup>1</sup> -- NEW USE OF IMMUNOSUPPRESSANTS FOR MMP-MEDIATED DISEASES --

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

a<sup>2</sup> --8. (Amended) The immunosuppressant used in claim 1 is tacrolimus, cyclosporin A  
or 33-epi-chloro-33-desoxyascomycin.--